

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and all prior versions, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Previously presented) The method for fractionating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons according to claim 6, characterized in that the solvent in which the sample is dissolved is an alcohol; one of the plurality of eluents comprises dichloromethane; and an eluent lower in polarity than dichloromethane comprises any one of n-hexane, carbon tetrachloride and toluene.
3. (Previously presented) The method for fractionating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons according to claim 6, characterized in that the column is a silica gel column.
4. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for fractionating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, characterized in that the apparatus comprises a column packed with a packing for normal phase chromatography; a solvent feeder of feeding to the column eluents to be a mobile phase for the test solution and to differ in polarity from each other; and a fractionation device of separating the solution according to the type and concentration of the solvent in the solvent feeder.

5. (Previously presented) The method for fractionating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons according to claim 2, characterized in that the column is a silica gel column.

6. (Currently amended) A method for fractionating polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons using a test solution in which a sample containing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons is dissolved in a solvent, a plurality of eluents to be a mobile phase for the test solution and different from the solvent and different in polarity from each other, and a column packed with a packing material, wherein the method comprises:

supplying a first eluent to the column and eluting contaminants in the test solution that are low in polarity;

mixing gradually a second eluent which is higher in polarity than the first eluent while reducing flow of the first eluent;

controlling an eluent ratio of the first and second eluents in a gradient mixer and distribution in a fraction collector, by a controller;

controlling the fraction collector to fractionate~~starting fractionating~~ eluted solution by the controller, when controlling the eluent ratio~~concentration~~ of the second eluent and the first eluent in the gradient mixer ~~with respect to the first eluent reaches a predetermined ratio~~~~concentration~~; and

separating the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.